



# Woodley Baptist Church

[www.woodleybc.org](http://www.woodleybc.org)

*'United in knowing Jesus and making Him known'.*

**19<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

## TODAY'S SERVICES

**10.15am** Service with Rachel Hughes leading and Chris van Es preaching  
- 'What we believe - The Future'.

Please continue to be vigilant about COVID, staying away if you are unwell or if you have been in close contact with anyone with the virus in the previous week.

**Prayer Ministry:** John & Julie Russell will be available for prayer after the service.

**Serving Tea/Coffee:** Paul Kingsnorth and Ginny Priddy

**6.30pm** Informal Praise and Worship Service lead by John Russell  
- 'Thinking about Faith'

## SUNDAY - 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**10.15am** Café Church with John Saunders and James Hern  
- 'Whoever we are'  
Please note that refreshments are served from 10.00am and worship will start at 10.15am

**6.30pm** Sunday Evening Prayer Hour

Everyone is welcome to join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87827308029?pwd=Vi9wTldoejV0bjNwd2xnc3pwK3NyUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 2730 8029

Passcode: 503411

## PRAYER MEETINGS

### MONDAY MORNING

Please join us for the Monday morning prayer meeting in the lounge from 10 -10.30am when we will be praying for activities in the church during the coming week.

### THURSDAY EVENING

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month (next meeting will take place on **23<sup>rd</sup> November**). Please join us as we seek the Lord for the future direction of WBC, 7.30-9pm.

## GENERAL NOTICES

### BIBLE JOURNALING GROUP

This newly-formed group will be meeting again on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November, from 7:30 - 9pm in the church lounge. We share a Bible passage together and then find creative ways to meditate on the truth of God's word. If you want to see what it's all about, we'd love to have you join us. Speak to Grace Hope for more details.

### CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETING

There will be a meeting of Church Members on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 7.30pm. Papers have been emailed or put into pigeon holes. The main item on the Agenda is agreeing the budget for 2024. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the information that Andrew has prepared.

### LEADERSHIP TEAM AND TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November the Leadership Team met with Jonathan Edwards and discussed the positive outcomes from our whole church discussions on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful for all who attended this meeting and the way that God is leading us forward.

The Trustees will be meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> to finalise the budget for 2024.

Please continue to pray for all these meetings, that we will know God's guidance and move forward in unity.

### BAPTISM

Following Ben's recent sermon on believer's baptism, we want to give you the opportunity to get baptised if you sense that this is a step that you need to take in your relationship with Jesus. Please listen to the sermon if you missed it and talk to a member of the Leadership Team. We would love to hold a baptismal service in the New Year if there is the need.

### FESTIVE CHEER

We would like to make Wednesday Morning Coffee look more festive this year. If you have any Christmas mugs and/or tea plates that you are willing to donate or lend to us we would be extremely grateful. Thank you - the Morning Coffee Elves!

### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

**17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

WBC will be holding a Carol Service on the evening of Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Many people have already volunteered to be in the group to lead the singing. The practices/rehearsals for the group will take place from 10.30 on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

Other people will be doing the readings for the service. Some have already put their names forward but we need more.

Please talk to John Russell if you would like to volunteer either to sing, play or do one of the readings. There are some short readings!

## SUNDAY EVENINGS

We have been holding informal worship services on the first Sunday evening of the month for the last couple of years. These meetings are often well attended so we are going to be holding them more often, on a trial basis, starting this month. We hope to be able to give you notice of who is leading and what the topic will be.

Please try to join us and enjoy a more informal and interactive time than is usually possible on a Sunday morning.

The services will be on the first and third Sunday evenings of the month, with an online prayer hour on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays.

## FOOD BANK NEEDS

At the present time the Food Bank is well stocked thanks to Harvest donations, but they are still in need of a few items:

Cooking oil            Rice pudding  
Tinned spaghetti    Sugar  
Instant coffee  
Meat and vegetable soups  
(But not cup-a -soups).

If you would like to make a monetary gift, the Food Bank has an online stewardship page –

<https://www.give.net/20181094>

The Food Bank remains open at the Church Centre, from 10.00 - 12 noon, Monday to Friday.

## FAMILY MATTERS

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR BERYL GILL

The Thanksgiving Service for the life of Beryl Gill will be held here on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am. There will be a Committal Service at Easthampstead Park Crematorium beforehand commencing at 10.00am. All welcome.

## ADVANCE NOTICES

### AN AFTERNOON WITH WYCLIFFE DISCOVERING THE WORLD OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

**Date: Saturday, 25th November**

**Time: 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM**

**Location: Thatcham Evangelical Church**

Wycliffe Bible Translators is committed to the global mission of making God's Word available to all and has been tirelessly working to ensure that every individual can have access to the Bible in a language they know best.

The afternoon's event will include a rich program of activities:

**Film Presentations:** Gain a visual insight into the dedicated work of Bible translation.

**Q&A Panel Interviews:** Engage with Wycliffe Bible Translators and ask questions about their experiences and the impact of their work.

**Project News:** Stay up-to-date with the latest developments and successes in the field of Bible translation.

**Discussions:** Share thoughts and ideas on how we can all contribute to this vital mission.

**Coffee and Cake:** Enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshments as we gather to discuss our shared commitment to making the Bible accessible to all.

**Children's Activities:** We are delighted to inform you that concurrent children's activities will be available. This allows parents to attend the event with peace of mind while their children are engaged in fun and educational activities around Bible translation.

A flyer with further information can be found in the rack beside the office.

# PRAYER

**Please pray for** the conflicts in Israel & Gaza and in Sudan, and the ongoing situation in Ukraine.

**Please pray for the family of Beryl Gill** as they prepare for her funeral.

**Please also pray for: Theresa Stillman, Jean Prince, John Perry, Jean James, Mandy and Allan Dodd.**

## **REinspired Woodley upcoming lessons:**

Tues 21st Nov:

Southlake Yr 3 (2 classes) are exploring 'Has Christmas lost its meaning?'

Thurs 23rd Nov:

Southlake Nursery (morning and afternoon sessions) are exploring The Christmas story.

Thurs 30th Nov:

Woodley CofE F2 (2 classes) are exploring 'Why do Christians do Nativity plays?'

**Pray for the team as they explore the wonder of the Christmas story with so many children.**

**Linda Galpin**

**REIW project manager**

## **Update from Prayer Meeting Nov 9<sup>th</sup>**

We read the account of Jesus walking on the water and His encouragement of Peter to do the same.

How much courage did Peter need to get out of the boat to follow Jesus?

How much faith did he need to keep walking?

What doubts crept in to cause him to sink?

How much are we just like Peter in our lack of trust?

Is it time for us, as a church to be more 'adventurous' or even 'daring' ?

We sensed that God was leading us to be exactly that and was encouraging us with the following verses and thoughts that were shared.

Ps 121 The Lord watches over us and protects us.

Judges 6 The Lord promises to be with the smallest or the weakest, just like Gideon in his clan and family.

Ju 6 v 14 'Go in the strength you have'. In the battle, no great numbers were needed because it was the Lord who fought.

We need to learn more how to listen to, and walk with Jesus.

Just as yeast makes dough 'come alive' and rise, so we need God's 'yeast' to help us to 'rise'

Matt. 28 v 16-20 Jesus commission to the disciples.

Some doubted, but Jesus said, 'All authority has been given to me'

and, 'Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age'

Matt 7 Ask, seek, and knock, for what we feel we need to go about the Lord's work.

Let us be encouraged that we have all the gifts and strengths we need as a church, to be effective and successful in God's work,

For surely, the Lord is at work in us already.



## UPDATE FROM THE WOT (WORLD OUT THERE) MISSION PRAYER MEETING

### PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR KERRY STILLMAN



**We offer a warm welcome this Sunday to Kerry Stillman, who will be taking part in our morning service and sharing with us about her work in Cameroon.**

It has been our privilege to support Kerry for a number of years now. For those who are new to the church, Kerry has been a missionary in Cameroon for many years. She began working there as a physiotherapist, in a Christian hospital in the north of the country.

When Boko Haram made it too dangerous to stay there, she and her colleagues moved further south and became involved in church planting - mentoring and encouraging and equipping Cameroonian believers to share their faith.

Kerry has now returned to the UK and will continue to work for Pioneers here, using her experience of working with Muslim background believers. Her role will start in January next year but is yet to be decided. **Please pray for Kerry as she adjusts to life in the UK and for guidance as she and Pioneers seek God for her new role in the UK.**

One of these Cameroonian believers, who Kerry and her team have been mentoring and who I will call MT, for security reasons, is having an effective ministry among a nomadic group of Fulbe people in Chad, who he has visited a couple of times now. A number have already come to faith and are being equipped to grow in Christ and to share the Gospel. Their story is amazing and an encouragement to us to share about Jesus with our family, friends, work colleagues and our neighbours too!!



**Please pray for protection for the believers and for the Gospel message in Cameroon and in Chad to bear much fruit in the coming days.**

Why not join us at 8pm on the first Thursday of the month on Zoom for the mission prayer meeting (details in Take Note). It is exciting to touch base with most of our missionaries in person each month and hear what God is doing at home and overseas.

# Yeldall Manor Christmas Celebration service

Join us to celebrate *Emmanuel — God with us*

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7.30pm

Norreys Church, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UU

Worship \* News \* Testimony \*

Followed by refreshments

